Citizen Police Complaint Commission CPCC 1991

ANNUAL REPORT





MEMORANDUM

date March 16, 1992

James C. Hankla, City Manager

Joseph T. Rouzan, Jr. Deputy City Manager/Executive Director from

subject Citizen Police Complaint Commission - 1991 Annual Report

> The Citizen Police Complaint Commission was created by City Charter Amendment by adding Sections 1150 through 1155, and was approved by the voters of the City of Long Beach on April 10, 1990. The Charter Amendment authorized the Commission "to receive, administer and investigate (through Independent Investigator), allegations misconduct with emphasis on Excessive Force, False Arrest, and complaints with Racial and Sexual overtones."

> The Citizen Police Complaint Commission may conduct hearings, subpoena witnesses and records when necessary to facilitate the fact finding process. The Commission is a fact finding body and makes findings and recommendations which are submitted to the City Manager for final adjudication.

> In August 1990, the City Council nominated and the Mayor appointed the eleven Commissioners, and on September 5, 1990, they were sworn in at their first meeting. After intensive orientation/training, they began their mission investigating allegations of police misconduct filed against Long Beach Police employees.

> The Commission developed By-Laws and Policy and Procedures for processing complaints; adopted January 2, 1991. January 22, 1991, the Commission opened its offices to the public at 100 W. Broadway.

> The Commission's primary role is that of fact finding. It is neither an advocate for the complainant nor for the police employee. The Commission's concern is that professional conduct is maintained at all times. As this becomes a reality, allegations of police misconduct are reduced and the healing process between community and police will be greatly enhanced.

> The investigative process is directed toward the review of police actions. Although the Independent Investigator may conduct investigations independent the from department, such investigations are only necessary when the police department has failed to conduct comprehensive investigation. This has not been a significant problem and excellent cooperation from the Department has been experienced. The review and critique process has worked very well.

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INVESTIGATIONS:

In 1991, the Commission received 92 complaints of police employee misconduct. Of those complaints, 40 were classified as non-police complaints. Fifty-two complaints containing 166 allegations of misconduct were received and investigated. (See Chart A).

Of the 52 complainants, 1% were Asian, 16% were Hispanic, 36% were White, and 47% were Black or African American. (See Chart B).

Males constituted 64% of the complainants, females 36%. (See Chart C).

Of the 166 allegations, 97 or 58% were for Excessive or Unnecessary Force. None were sustained. Discourtesy was the second highest category of filed allegations 16% or 27. Racial/Sexual allegations comprised 6% or 10 of the total. (See Chart D).

A total of 18 allegations were **SUSTAINED** of 166 allegations filed 10.8%. Neglect of Duty accounted for 39%, followed closely by False Arrest and Illegal Detention 28% and Discourtesy 22%. (See Chart E).

Fifty-eight percent, or 95 of the filed allegations were classified as NOT SUSTAINED. Heading this category was Excessive/Unnecessary Force 67%. Discourtesy was a distant 17%. Racial and Sexual allegations registered at 7%. (See Chart F).

Allegations filed and subsequently **EXONERATED** accounted for 9% or 15 of the total. Leading this category was Excessive/Unnecessary Force, 73% or 11 allegations. False Arrest/Illegal Detention/Search followed at 13% or 2 exonerated. (See Chart G).

Thirty-eight allegations of misconduct or 23% were classified as UNFOUNDED. Once again Excessive/Unnecessary Force lead in the highest number of unfounded 58% or 97 allegations. Neglect of Duty 16%, and Discourtesy 13% followed. (See Chart H).

An overall summary of complaints and allegations may be found in Chart I of this report.

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Although there has been some concern voiced about the physical location of the Commission office, this does not appear to have negatively impacted the opportunity to serve the public. Of the 52 complaints investigated by staff and reviewed and adjudicated by the Commission 16 complaints 31% were initially brought to the attention of the Commission; 36 were received via the police department.

It is much too early to determine if there is a valid difference in the type of the complaints submitted initially to the Commission or through the police department. However, there does not seem to be any major discrepancies in **findings** and **recommendations** between the two agencies.

COMMISSION MEETINGS:

The Commission conducted 12 public meetings in 1991, and reviewed 92 complaints covering 166 allegations of police misconduct.

Three Rules and Regulations Committee meetings were convened to review and revise By-Laws and Policy and Procedure documents.

Three training/orientation meetings were conducted for new members.

Twenty-five Boards of Inquiry (BOI) were held during 1991 - reviewing 92 complaints of misconduct.

Eight Sheriff Liaison Committee meetings were called and participated in by five Commission committee members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

During the year the Executive Director was the guest speaker at eight organizations including the NAACP, PSAC, the Human Relations Commission, and several service clubs. The Executive Director also testified before the NAACP National Executive Committee on police use of force and discipline process. Several Block/Neighborhood Watch meetings were attended, as were Police Department community involvement meetings.

JTR:slf Attachments

CITIZEN POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSION

1991 - 1992

Dr. William Ridgeway
Commission Chair

Commissioner Jeff Baker, V/Chair Commissioner Paul Blanco Commissioner Renee Greenfield Commissioner Ernest Gualderon Commissioner Tim Hickman Commissioner Mary Martinez
Commissioner Michael Pearce
Commissioner Barbara Shoag
Commissioner Edward Velazquez
Commissioner Wendell Whisenton

Board of Inquiry I
Commissioner Tim Hickman, Chair
Commissioner Barbara Shoag, V/Chair
Commissioner Paul Blanco
Commissioner Renee Greenfield
Commissioner Wendell Whisenton

Board of Inquiry II
Commissioner Mary Martinez, Chair
Commissioner Michael Pearce, V/Chair
Commissioner Jeff Baker
Commissioner Ernest Gualderon
Commissioner Edward Velazquez

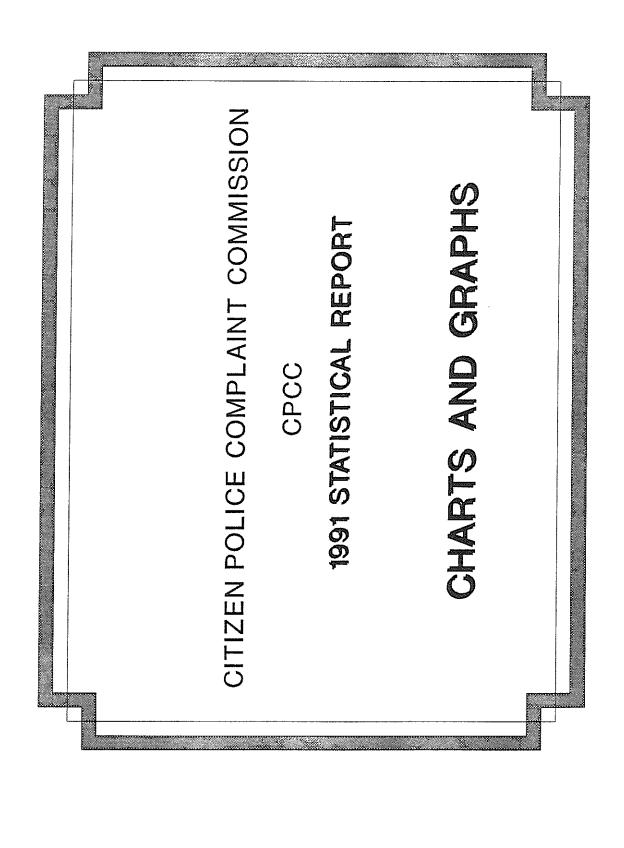
Sheriff's Liaison Committee

Commissioner Wendell Whisenton, Chair Commissioner Renee Greenfield Commissioner Mary Martinez Commissioner Barbara Shoag Commissioner Edward Velazquez

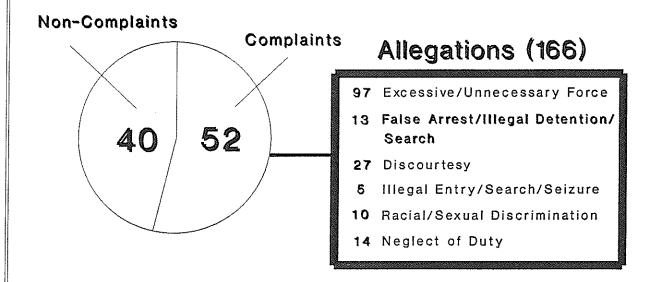
Rules & Regulations Committee

Commissioner Jeff Baker, Chair Commissioner Renee Greenfield Commissioner Mary Martinez Commissioner Michael Pearce Commissioner Barbara Shoag

Community Relations Committee
Dr. William Ridgeway, Chair
Paul Blanco
Renee Greenfield
Msgr. Ernest Gualderon
Tim Hickman



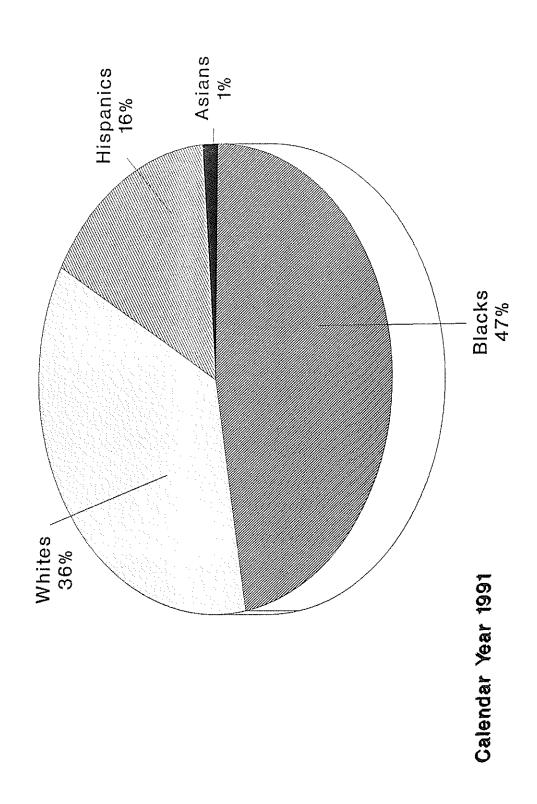
Citizen Police Complaint Commission CPCC



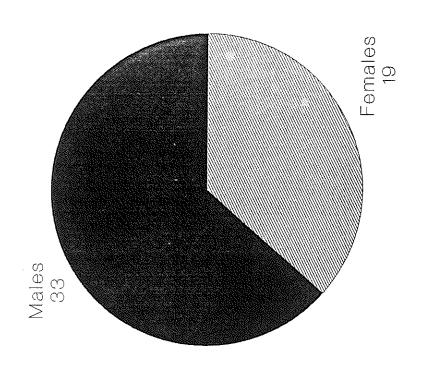
Complaints of Misconduct
Total of 92

Calendar Year 1991

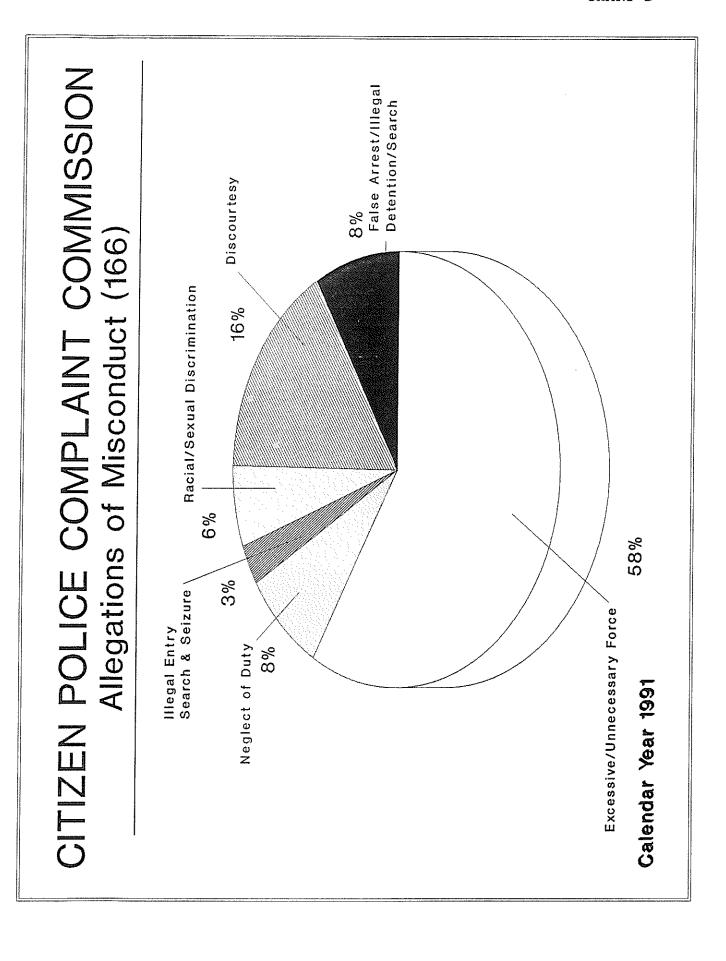
CITIZEN POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSION Racial/Ethnic Breakdown of Complainants (52)

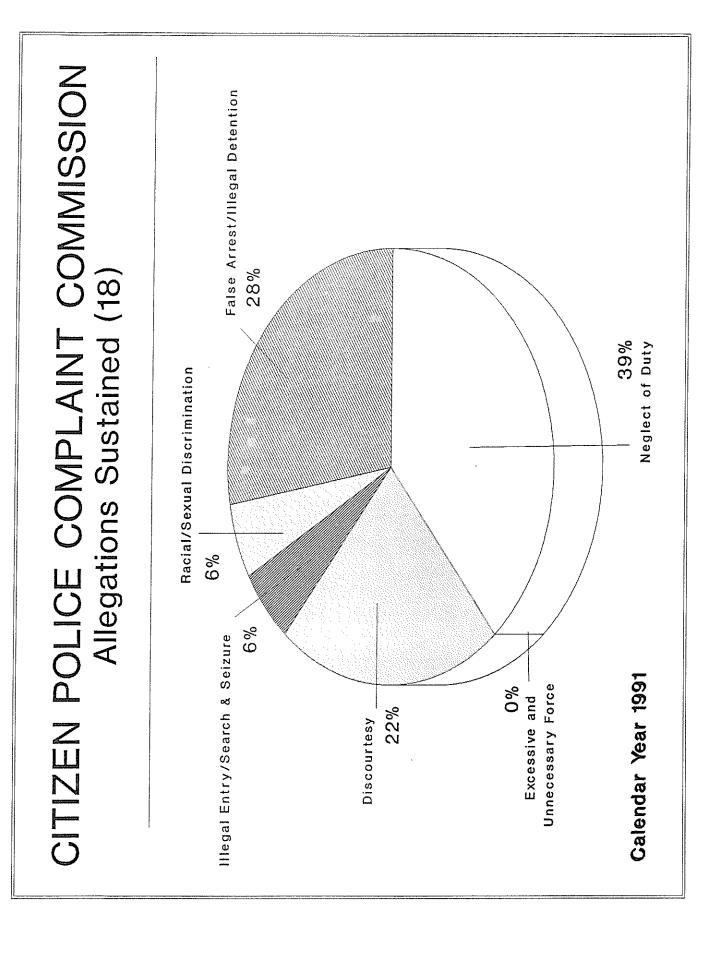


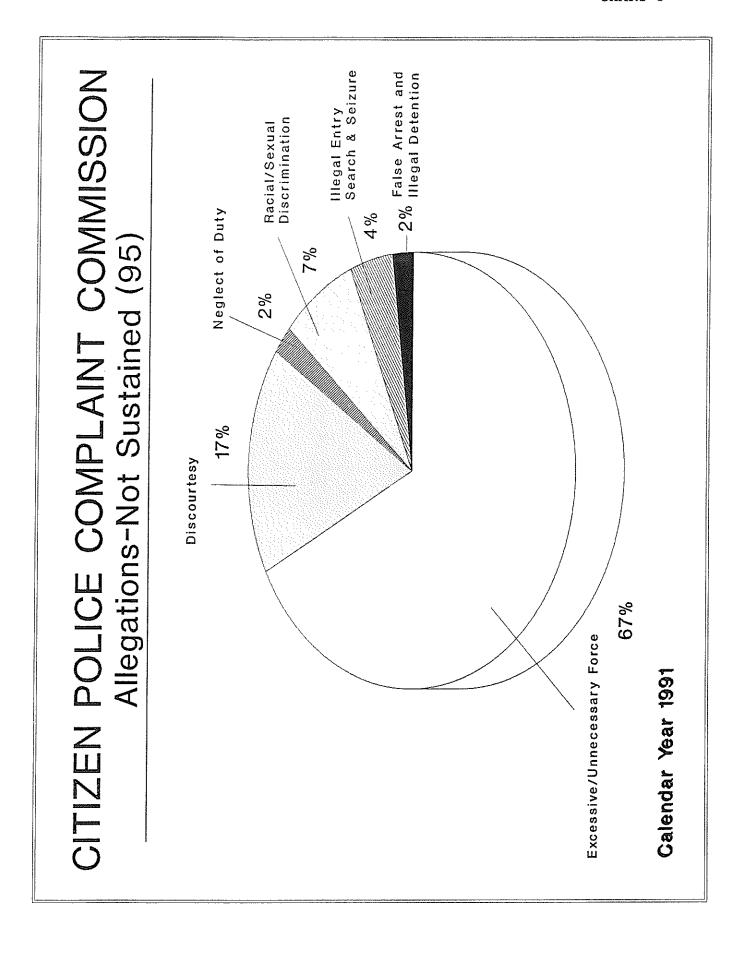
CITIZEN POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSION Gender Breakdown of Complainants (52)



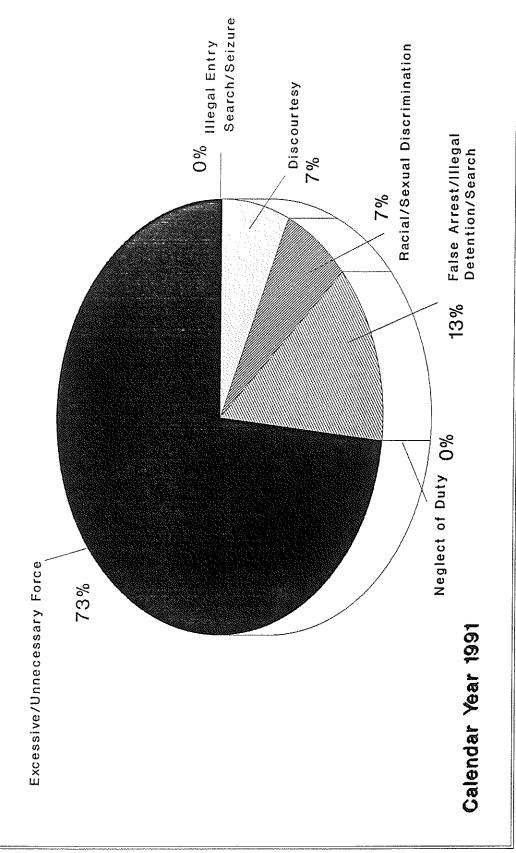
Calendar Year 1991

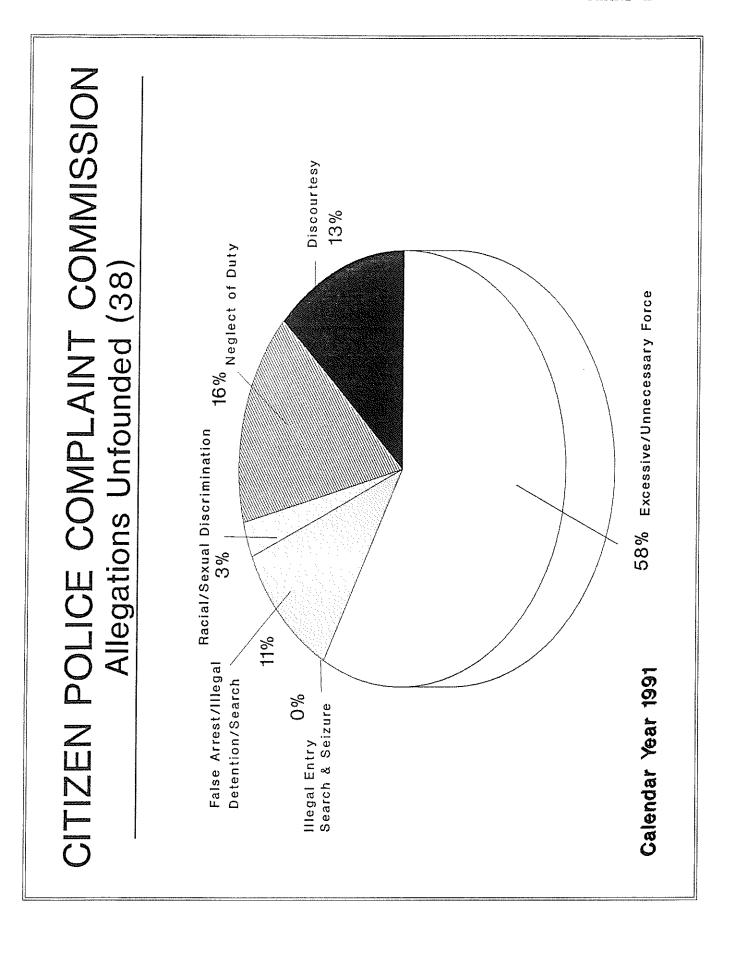












52 Complaints Adjudicated in 1991 (166 Allegations)

	Sustained	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Exonerated	Total
Excess./Unnec. Force	0	64	22		97
False Arrest/Illeg. Detent./Search	5	2	4	2	<u>د</u>
Illegal Entry, Search & Seizure	***************************************	4	0	0	5
Racial/Sex Discrimination	-	7	-	THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	10
Discourtesy	4	16	9	THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	27
Other	0	-	0	0	
Neglect of Duty	7	_	ည	0	13
Total	18	95	38	15	166

CITY OF LONG BEACH CITIZEN POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSION

Recommendations/Findings:

Categories of findings shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Unfounded:

The investigation indicates that the act or acts complained of did not occur, or the individual named in the complaint was not involved.

2. Exonerated:

The investigation shows the acts did occur, but were justified, lawful and proper.

3. Sustained:

The investigation discloses sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegations made in the complaint.

4. Not Sustained:

The investigation fails to discover sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegations made in the complaint.

5. Not Involved:

The investigation established that a police department employee was not the subject of the investigation.